



# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## NEWS RELEASE

No. 13-072

August 7, 2013

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Nancy Rodriguez

Office: (502) 564-2000 Cell: (502) 330-5063

E-mail: [nancy.rodriquez@education.ky.gov](mailto:nancy.rodriquez@education.ky.gov)

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSES FUNDING DURING ANNUAL RETREAT**

(Frankfort, KY) – At its annual retreat today, the Kentucky Board of Education discussed upcoming biennial budget priorities and the impact of sequestration on state and local education efforts among other issues.

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai told the board the full impact of sequestration still has not been felt since districts have been skillful at redirecting funds to largely mitigate the impact at the classroom level. Additionally, they are operating with a \$140 million carryover of federal funds from the previous year, he said. Desai predicted sequestration will hit hard in spring 2014, especially given prior state cuts.

Board member Brigitte Blom Ramsey said with the implementation of Senate Bill 1 (2009), the state has raised expectations but “we are not funding what we need to for students to meet higher expectations and that is a recipe for failure.”

Board member Roger Marcum urged educators to speak up about the impact of funding cuts on them and their ability to educate the state’s children.

In preparation for submitting a budget request this fall for the upcoming biennium, the state board discussed several funding priorities totaling more than \$369 million in additional funding over current levels – to restore funding that has been cut. The items discussed include but are not limited to SEEK base funding, technology, flexible focus funds (including textbooks, professional development and extended school services), college/career-readiness, professional growth and effectiveness and district turnaround support.

(more)

Visit our website at <http://www.education.ky.gov>

Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/kydeptofed](http://www.twitter.com/kydeptofed) and Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kydeptofed](http://www.facebook.com/kydeptofed)

## Page 2 – KBE retreat

Superintendents will have an opportunity to provide input on the biennial budget priorities at a meeting in September. The board will finalize priorities and make recommendations on a budget request at its October meeting.

During the retreat the board also received an update on its strategic plan and participated in a work session using TELL Kentucky Survey results to inform potential policy matters in three areas: managing student conduct, new teacher support and community engagement and support.

The Kentucky Board of Education approved future meeting dates and took no further action during its retreat.

The board will resume in regular session tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. ET. The agenda is available on the board's web portal

<http://portal.ksba.org/public/Agency.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&AgencyTypeID=1>

The regular meeting will be webcast; information on how to access the webcast will be available on the Kentucky Department of Education's [homepage](#) the morning of August 8.

###

Visit our website at <http://www.education.ky.gov>

Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/kydeptofed](http://www.twitter.com/kydeptofed) and Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kydeptofed](http://www.facebook.com/kydeptofed)